

REC-70

Tolson _____
 Boardman ☒
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Nease _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 Clayton _____
 Tele Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____

Sparkman Says Radio Link Is 'No Mystery'

A Republican Congressman asserted yesterday that Senator Sparkman, Democrat, of Alabama, has had a "mysterious connection" with broadcasting. Senator Sparkman replied there was no mystery at all.

Senator Sparkman said he had no connection with the award by the Federal Communications Commission of a license for an Albertville, Ala., radio station in which his wife later bought an interest.

The question was raised by Representative Laird, Republican of Wisconsin, in a statement. He noted that Senator Sparkman this week referred to alleged "misdeeds" in the FCC, now under investigation by a House committee.

Mr. Laird said that while Senator Sparkman is on this topic "he has a timely chance to settle questions about his own mysterious connections with broadcasting which have stood unanswered for five long years."

Mr. Laird recalled that in 1952 when Senator Sparkman was Democratic vice presidential nominee, he gave a public accounting of his finances. But Mr. Laird said Senator Sparkman left out "the fact that his wife in just one year received dividends totaling \$6,501 from her partnership in WAVU of Albertville, Ala."

"The station," Mr. Laird continued, "conceded that Mrs. Sparkman became a partner in its operation immediately after the Democrat-controlled FCC authorized it. But the other partner, Pat Cunningham, refused to say how much Mrs. Sparkman paid for her 49 per cent holdings. He was described as the husband of Mrs. Sparkman's niece."

Mr. Laird asked why Senator Sparkman excluded his wife's income in giving his financial accounting in 1952, and whether he had anything to do with obtaining the radio station license.

Senator Sparkman said the husband of Mrs. Sparkman's niece applied for authority for the station, got it without opposition, and later received FCC permission to sell Mrs. Sparkman an interest.

Senator Sparkman said he had nothing to do with FCC award. He said that when he was vice presidential candidate, he did not make public Mrs. Sparkman's financial interests because none of the other candidates listed the finances of their wives. Also, he said he did not think there was any necessity of making public his private business.

Subcommittee On
Legislative Oversight

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
 Wash. News _____
 Wash. Star A-3
 N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
 N. Y. Journal-American _____
 N. Y. Mirror _____
 N. Y. Daily News _____
 N. Y. Times _____
 Daily Worker _____
 The Worker _____
 New Leader _____

Date _____

REC-70

62-104125-A
 100 RECORDS

FEB 20 1958

68 FEB 25 1958

FEB 15 1958

EX-108

*Radio Station